

Birch Founder To Speak Here

Robert Welch, founder and head of the arch-conservative, anti-Communist John Birch Society, will speak in Atlanta next Friday, according to sources acquainted with the society's doings.

Mrs. H. Dillon Winship of 3770 Peachtree Road, N.E., reported in charge of arrangements for his visit, could not be reached for confirmation of the time and place of his talk.

The society's national headquarters in Belmont, Mass., said it was not giving out any information on the Welch visit here. "It's all being handled by our people in Atlanta," a staff member said.

MR. WELCH, a 61-year-old retired candy manufacturer, started the society in December, 1958,

and named it for a Georgian, an intelligence officer and former missionary who was killed in China 10 days after the Japanese surrender in 1945.

The Birch Society has so far undisclosed strength in Atlanta.

(Related stories on Pages 15 and 17.)

The national headquarters says it has chapters here, but as a matter of policy will not name any of the Atlanta leaders or members.

Dr. Lane Mitchell, director of the ceramics department at Georgia Tech, who says he approves of the society although not a member, said the Welch meeting will be "open," with a \$1 admission charge.

---MARGARET SHANNON.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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April 14, 1961
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RE: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
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AT File: 100-5757-25

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Birch Head Again Attacks Clergy

Cites 'Principle of Reversal': Reds Unlikely in Pulpit, Therefore Prevalent

SHREVEPORT, La., April 20 (AP)—The founder of the right wing John Birch society has again charged that Communists have infiltrated the Protestant clergy in the United States.

Robert Welch, retired Massachusetts candy-maker who organized the ultra-conservative group, charged in a copyrighted speech here Wednesday night that "the largest single body of Communists in America is in our Protestant clergy."

Welch made a one-night stop in Shreveport on his speaking tour of the Southwest. He spoke one hour and 45 minutes to a crowd estimated at 2,000.

The speech dealt with what Welch called the "principle of reversal" being used by the Communists. He said the principle is at work among Protestant clergymen "because that is almost the last place the ordinary American would expect to find them."

WELCH HAS made similar charges in previous speeches.

"Protestant ministers do not become Communists, but Communists become Protestant ministers," Welch said.

He also said Communists have "heavily influenced all major decisions in our government since 1944."

BUT THE Birch Society chairman said he wanted to let written statements he made about

American leaders being Communist stooges "fade out of the picture."

"I think it would be better for all concerned to let it fade out of the argument—fade out of the picture—and that is what I intend to do as quickly as possible."

The written statements attacked former President Eisenhower and other high officials. Welch termed them "harsh words" in his speech here.

He accused the press of misquoting him and setting "completely false statements in my mouth."

He charged he was recently misquoted at Santa Barbara, Calif., concerning the Birch Society's stand on the racial question. He said he was quoted as saying the group opposed forced segregation but that he actually said it was against forced integration.

HE MADE the same comment in a brief interview on his arrival here yesterday afternoon from Houston, Tex.

In the interview, he declined to comment on any subject but his views on the racial question.

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APR 21 1961	
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b7C

Welch Speecl An Invitation Affair Here

John Birch Society founder Robert Welch's speech here at 8 p.m. Friday will be at Elks Club No. 78, at 736 Peachtree St., N.E., and it will be to an invited audience.

Terry Whitman, Atlanta area coordinator, said the inviting is being done by him and other Birch members and by other persons and groups they have asked.

Mr. Whitman said Mr. Welch will not hold a press conference while here and his speech won't be generally open to the press, but some of the inviters might happen to invite reporters and that would be all right.

He said he didn't consider that the society was barring the press.

MR. WHITMAN said the Elks Club room in which Mr. Welch will speak will hold 450 to 500 persons. He said another room is available where Mr. Welch could be heard by loudspeaker, but not seen.

He said he'd asked inviters to cut down their lists after the speech was shifted from the Atlanta Athletic Club, which could have accommodated 800.

Mr. Whitman said he has had inquiries from out of town and has been embarrassed to tell people they may not be able to get in. He said some space may be available if all invitees don't show up. A \$1 fee will be charged.

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SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 21 1961	
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Elks Club Cancels Welch Speech Here

An Atlanta Elks lodge canceled the appearance of John Birch Society founder Robert Welch in its hall Thursday because the society is too controversial.

Lodge No. 78 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks took the action in a letter to Terry Whitman, an Atlanta salesman who has been acting as local coordinator for the conservative society. The speech was to have taken place Friday night at the lodge's hall at 736 Peachtree NE.

John W. Brinsfield, exalted ruler of Lodge 78, said in a special delivery, registered letter to Mr. Whitman mailed Thursday afternoon:

"The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is a patriotic, American fraternal order and is non-political and will not allow any controversial organization to hold a meeting in our building."

MR. WHITMAN, informed of this, said he would have no comment until he sees the letter or hears officially about the action. It was the second shift in plans

for Mr. Welch, the Massachusetts native who now heads a nationwide society dedicated to ultraconservatism and the eradication of what the group calls socialism in America.

Mr. Welch originally was scheduled to speak in an open meeting at the Atlanta Athletic Club. But the club canceled the appearance, saying publicly that an open meeting would conflict with its position as a private club.

THE ELKS' decision came as some members of the fraternal organization were talking about taking action to keep the Birch leader out of their hall.

Morris Manheim Jr., past exalted ruler of the lodge, said earlier Thursday that several members wanted to propose, at Thursday night's regular meeting, that Mr. Welch find accommodations elsewhere.

"I don't think that it is the consensus of the membership," he said, "that a member of the Birch Society should speak in the Elks Club, which is dedicated to Americanism." (Earlier story on Page 19.)

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SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 21 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

Close-up

There's a Better and Cheaper Way

As this is written Thursday afternoon Robert Welch of the John Birch Society has no place to speak when he arrives here Friday night. The Elks have just become the second organization to withdraw an offer of a hall.

Mr. Welch, of course, should be allowed to speak here. People who think they shouldn't "dignify" Welch by allowing him the use of respectable facilities are mistaken. Nothing can dignify a bad idea, just as nothing can prevent a good idea from being heard.

Proscription is not the way to handle Mr. Welch. Neither is ridicule, which is the attorney general's suggestion. Ridicule leaves unanswered the question of why people listen to Welch.

They listen to him for two reasons. They are afraid of Communists. They want a simple, single culprit for all the day's complexities. Fear of communism can be replaced by alertness to it very simply, by learning exactly what it is. Once we know what it is, we learn what it isn't. When we know what it



isn't we know not to blame everything we don't like—the Supreme Court, taxes, treaties—on Reds. That's the first step toward understanding the complicated state of the world today.

When the submarine Skate prepared to go on a long, under-the-pole voyage, it gave great thought to selecting a library. It had to be small and it had to be good. It could only include 10 titles in its political section. Five of those 10 will tell you about all you need to know of communism. They are: Crossman's The God That Failed, Hoover's Masters of Deceit, Koestler's Darkness at Noon, Orwell's Animal Farm and the Overstreets' What We Must Know About Communism.

(Communism isn't the only -ism that Americans need to be alert to. Reading about fascism is also a valuable pastime for Americans. The first part of Shirer's Rise and Fall of the Third Reich, chapters 1-12 of Schlesinger's Politics of Upheaval, Rovere's biography of Joe McCarthy and It Can't Happen Here by Sinclair Lewis remind us that it could happen—even here.)

All these books can be checked out of the public library for nothing. Welch charges a dollar.—TED LIPPMAN.

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

Welch Finds Secret Place For Talk as Elks Say 'No'

By FRED POWLEDGE

Birch Society founder Robert Welch was due in Atlanta Friday night for a speech, but it will be to a small group in an undisclosed place.

One of the local leaders of the ultra-conservative group said it will be a meeting "by special invitation only." He said the audience would be "very small," that he didn't even know who would attend, and that he could not say where Mr. Welch will speak.

The last-day switch in plans was necessary because two Atlanta organizations—the Elks Lodge No. 78 and the Atlanta Athletic Club—decided that Mr. Welch could not

use their facilities to speak to Atlantans.

Terry Whitman, an Atlanta sales representative who acts as Georgia Birch coordinator, confirmed Friday morning that the Elks club date was off and that Mr. Welch would address a small group at an undisclosed place.

"I'm very sad," said Mrs. H. D. Winsup, one of the Atlantans who has been making arrangements for Mr. Welch's appearance. "The speech is canceled. This is the only city in the United States that has done this."

ASKED WHERE Mr. Welch will make his appearance to the small

group, she replied: "If we knew, I wouldn't tell you." Then she said "I know all about it, but I don't intend to give it to the press."

THE CANCELLATION came after Atlanta Elks Lodge No. 78 decided to refuse the use of its hall on Peachtree Street on the grounds that the speaker and his society are "controversial."

The fraternal order sent a letter to this effect Thursday to Mr. Whitman. At the regular lodge meeting Thursday night, about 100 members voted unanimously to back up the letter because of the "controversial nature" of the society.

It was the second such setback for the society in Atlanta. Mr. Welch, who is on a nationwide speaking tour, was originally scheduled to speak at the Atlanta Athletic Club. That reservation was canceled when it became known that he was to be the speaker.

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1961	
FBI — ATLANTA	

The club said officially that an open meeting would conflict with its status as a private club.

Mrs. Winship, an outspoken foe of what she calls communism and socialism in America and a worker for the Birch cause, said she was sad at the treatment the speaker is receiving from Atlanta.

Mrs. Winship said the Atlanta newspapers, which she characterized as wanting to crucify the society and its founder, were to blame for the cancellations. She said the newspapers had been asked not to write any stories about Mr. Welch's scheduled talk to some 300 invited listeners.

She added that she felt it was a sad comment on "my Atlanta and my Georgia" that Mr. Welch not be accommodated on his visit. "Even a Communist is permitted to speak here," she said. "They are encouraged to speak here."

The Elks adopted the following resolution at their Thursday night lodge meeting:

"Whereas, it has come to our attention through the Atlanta press that a representative of Atlanta Lodge 78, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, indicated that the John Birch Society could hold a meeting in our home upon the payment of a fee for the use of a meeting room;

"Whereas, our facilities have never been used by any organization of a controversial nature and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, being a charitable and patriotic fraternal order pledged to uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, and to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; and,

"Whereas, we have no information regarding the character of the John Birch Society except the different views read in the public press,

"It is therefore resolved that Atlanta Lodge No. 78 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks hereby affirms and approves of the action of the exalted ruler, John W. Brinsfield, of our lodge, in canceling the meeting of the said John Birch Society in our quarters."

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SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 24 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Elks Refuse Hall For Birch Leader

Atlanta Elks Lodge 78 officials Thursday banned the use of their hall by John Birch Society founder Robert Welch, who had been scheduled to speak there Friday evening.

Members of the society could not be reached Thursday night to determine if a new site had been found.

The action by the Elks was the second cancellation of Welch's Atlanta meeting. The Belmont, Mass., candy manufacturer was originally scheduled to speak at an open meeting at the Atlanta Athletic Club. The club canceled his appearance, saying that an open meeting would conflict with its position as a private club.

The Elks announced the can-

cellation in a letter to Terry Whitman, a real estate salesman who has been acting as Atlanta area coordinator for the ultraconservative society.

The Elks' letter said the order "is a patriotic, American fraternal order and is non-political and will not allow any controversial organization to hold a meeting in our building."

Whitman could not be contacted late Thursday night for comment. No new site of the meeting had been announced by early Wednesday morning.

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 24 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

7,000 Pastors Are Reds, Welch Says

By REG MURPHY
Constitution Political Editor

The founder of the John Birch Society told some 300 Georgians—including Birch's parents—Friday night that Communists have infiltrated church pulpits and national government in dangerous numbers.

Founder Robert Welch, retired Belmont, Mass., businessman estimated 7,000 American Protestant preachers (3 per cent of the total Protestant clergy) are active in Communist work.

WHERE THEY ARE

Although "I don't think the Communists yet have anywhere near 3 per cent of the government employees," Welch said, "the vital question is not how many Communists there are but where they are."

He asserted that many of them are in the "top echelons" of the national government.

Mr. and Mrs. George Birch of Macon, retired missionaries, sat in front-row pews in the North Atlanta Baptist Church.

Also present were Walter E. Birch of Macon and Dr. Herbert W. Birch of Decatur, brothers of the Baptist minister and serviceman, who was killed in China 10 days after the end of World War II.

The society which has taken the Birch name is a controversial ultra-conservative organization.

Admission to the meeting was by invitation, organizers said. But some of the crowd that nearly filled the church did not present invitations.

FAR LESS HERE

Welch said, "The percentage (of Communist clergymen) is far less in this part of the country than in other parts. . . . Protestant ministers do not become

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Communists, but Communists do become Protestant ministers."

The cancellation of two meetings held before the Birch Society lined up the church auditorium was "amazing and annoying," he said. His one hour and forty-minute speech, which is copyrighted, was delivered to a nearly full house of cheering listeners.

"Nothing like this situation in Atlanta has happened anywhere else at all. This is the only place we have had any trouble whatsoever" in getting a hall, Welch said.

The efforts to "destroy" the late Sen. Joe McCarthy are "the same nonsense which is being peddled against the John Birch Society today," Welch said.

Welch said McCarthy, the late Sen. Robert A. Taft and other foes of communism have been destroyed in America by the use of catch-phrases.

For example, he said that Taft "unquestionably" would have won (1952) one of the greatest land-slides in American political history if the Communists had not coined the phrase, "I like Taft, but he can't win."

In defending McCarthy and Taft, Welch said, "With minor exceptions there was nothing wrong with McCarthy's methods from the point of view of a patriotic American."

The loudest applause seemed to greet that statement and one referring to where Communists are found: "I can find you a lot more Harvard accents in Communist circles today than you can find me in overalls."

Welch said, "Communism has always been imposed from the top down, by the very rich, the highly educated and the political-

ly powerful, on the suffering masses."

Much of his speech was devoted to an explanation of his "concept of the principle of reversal."

That principle deals with the theory that the Communists give a relatively small amount of ground to obtain their main objective.

An example, Welch said, was the phrase which was used to elect the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1940.

Roosevelt had made it clear that if he won a third term in the White House "he would bring the U.S. into war as soon as possible."

That suited Soviet Russia's purposes, because they wanted to become allies with the Democratic powers, so they said, "I can't stand Roosevelt but we must support him because of his foreign policy."

He was introduced by Terry Whitman, an Atlantan who helped organize the meeting. Whitman said of Welch, "A number of years ago he retired from business to devote his life to saving his country."



Staff Photo—Charles F. Hahn

LEADER OF JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY MAKES ATLANTA ADDRESS

Robert H. Welch Jr. Speaks at North Atlanta Baptist Church

37

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (100-5857)

DATE: 4/24/61

FROM :

SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INTERNAL SECURITY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-18-04 BY 60290 BCG/TCB/PK

On 4/16/61, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Atlanta, Ga., made available the following
literature to [REDACTED] which she states came
from [REDACTED], Atlanta,
the previous week.

[REDACTED] who is a [REDACTED] of the writer, and
is [REDACTED] Parent Teachers Association
(PTA) in the neighborhood, advised that [REDACTED] is a member
of the PTA and that her only knowledge of [REDACTED] is that she
attends PTA occasionally. She is of the opinion that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] is an artist by profession but apparently is devoting
his full time to the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. [REDACTED] said that
[REDACTED] called upon her at her home on two occasions and
on the second occasion left the following literature which she
claimed she did not want and was making it available to the
writer. [REDACTED] was also of the opinion that [REDACTED]
was attempting to solicit her help in "The Fight of Communism".
[REDACTED] informed that she did not know of any particular
reason why [REDACTED] chose to leave the material with her
except that it might be that both she, [REDACTED] and her
husband actively associated in the field of education in Georgia,
both being former professors. Set out below is the literature
which makes numerous quotes out of contacts from speeches
of the Director:

- (1) A three page mimeograph paper entitled
GOD AND COUNTRY OR COMMUNISM? by J.
Edgar Hoover. Excerpts taken from a
reprint of a feature article in the
American Mercury, dated December, 1957;

- (2) Tax Fax No. 27, pamphlet entitled
DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION,
IMPEACH EARL WARREN?
This pamphlet purports to be a documented
record of Chief Justice EARL WARREN'S
Pro-Communist rulings.

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100-5857-63

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1961	
FBI-ATLANTA	

AT 100-5857

- (3) Tax Fax No. 12. A Pamphlet captioned DO YOU OWN PROPERTY? URBAN RENEWAL. A Socialist Scheme to Confiscate Private Property.
- (4) Tax Fax No. 29. A pamphlet entitled DO YOU WANT FEDERAL CONTROL OF EDUCATION? What Federal Aid to Education Really Means.
- (5) A one page pamphlet captioned THE FEDERALIZATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS - THE ORGANIZERS, PROMOTERS, AND THE OBJECTIVE, by HERBERT S. PHILLIPS, Attorney, 606 Wallace S. Bldg., Tampa, Florida.
- (6) A 16 page booklet captioned "INSIDE THE COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY.

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is not aware of an active group of The JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY in the area, however, in the event she obtains any information indicating the presence of such a group, she would notify the writer.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (100-5857)

DATE: 4/21/61

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING - IS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/14/04 BY 60290 ECE/10/07X

On April 20, 1961, Col. [REDACTED] U. S. Army (Retired), [REDACTED], Atlanta, Georgia, a personal friend of SA [REDACTED] advised that he had a friend named [REDACTED] who [REDACTED] a Shell Service Station at [REDACTED], Atlanta, and who had some information which he desired to relay to the FBI.

On the same date, [REDACTED] Shell Service Station, [REDACTED] was interviewed and advised as follows:

For several months a man by the name of [REDACTED] who resides [REDACTED], has been stopping at his service station for tire work and general servicing of his automobile. [REDACTED] while waiting for work to be done, at various times has given [REDACTED] literature regarding segregation in Georgia and literature reflecting views to the effect that the present U. S. Government is socialistic in nature and that not enough is being done to fight Communism. [REDACTED] has also identified himself as being a member of the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, and is presently working with LESTER MADDOX, who owns the Pickrick Cafeteria in connection with the SOCIETY's work.

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[REDACTED] felt that [REDACTED] has acted peculiarly in regard to his expressing his extreme views concerning segregation and the fight against Communism.

[REDACTED] is presently self-employed and operates some type of photographic work out of his own home which [REDACTED] described as a \$30,000 to \$35,000 home. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that approximately six or seven months ago, he, [REDACTED] resigned his job to engage in self-employment. [REDACTED] stated that he believes that [REDACTED] distributes literature to people in the Atlanta area, as well as in other places. Recently [REDACTED] traveled to Savannah.

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FBI - ATLANTA

AT 100-5857

[] stated that he had received some literature which had been mimeographed by [] himself at his home. The last time that [] saw [] was about the middle of April, 1961, at which time [] was looking forward to the visit of JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY president WELCH. Also he was planning, with LESTER MADDOX, arrangements for a speaker from the SOCIETY to follow in WELCH's footsteps in the near future.

b7C

Praises God, Rebellion, John Birch Society

Form Publisher Tells Advertising Men
How to Fight Menace of Communism

By FRED POWLEDGE

An official of the John Birch Society told an Atlanta audience that God, rebellion and conservatism are the answers to the Communist menace.

Thomas Anderson, publisher of a farm magazine and member of the society's national council,

(Birch Society has Georgia advisers—Page 17.)

spoke Thursday at a meeting of the Atlanta Advertising Institute. He condemned foreign aid, the farm program, Chief Justice Earl Warren, personal income tax, members of the U.S. foreign service, liberals, federal aid to most everything and Negro entertainer Sammy Davis Jr.

He said he believes in J. Edgar Hoover, putting Christ back into Christmas, freedom of association, "right to work" laws, firm faith in God, home rule, urban renewal if the cities pay for it themselves, and the right to vote so long as the voters pass intelligence tests.

AND THE JOHN BIRCH Society. He called the conservative organization "the best movement that I've seen to alert Americans to the danger" of socialism.

He gave conditional approval to Ezra Taft Benson, the former secretary of agriculture, but he indicated that sometimes even Mr. Benson worried him.

Mr. Anderson, who is editor and publisher of Farm and Ranch magazine, toured the Soviet Union for four days last year with Secretary Benson and a group of farm writers.

He said Thursday that he found in Russia an "organized religion of hate" which can be fought only by the love of God.

REBELLION ALSO should be used to cure the ills of the United States, he said. He said the country can be returned to its proper status by "rebellious patriots demanding a return to home rule." Advertising men, particularly, can help because they mold opinion, he said.

Mr. Anderson often drew on humor to support his contentions, and the advertising men responded with laughter.

In listing what he was "for" and "against," for instance, he said he was "for Sammy Davis Jr. as our first negro man" and "for Earl Warren—for impeachment."

He said he was definitely for J. Edgar Hoover, "who can catch Communists faster than the Supreme Court can turn them loose."

Mr. Anderson used as his text part of a speech he delivered Sept. 8, 1960, at a meeting of the Northwest Power Association in Glacier Park, Mont.

HE DID NOT, however, use a portion of the Glacier Park speech which noted that "Because of what we stand for, at Farm and Ranch we are constantly being sniped at by our socialistic competitor, by a few socialists in advertising agencies."

He did say that he was struck on his visit to Russia by the lack of advertising billboards along the highways.

Mr. Anderson also deleted a sentence from the Glacier Park speech which said, "The socialistic talking machine from Minnesota, Hubert Humphrey, and so-called right-winger Herman Talmadge are reportedly brewing a new Brannan plan for the (current) Congress."

He retained a paragraph in which he quoted Sen. Talmadge as saying there would be 100 per cent socialism and a 20-cent dollar in America in 25 years.

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 13 1961	
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BIRCH AT MERCER: A PARALLEL

By GEORGE A. DOSS JR.
MACON, Ga. (UPI)—John Mor-
fison Birch, as a ministerial stu-
dent here 22 years ago, was a
holder of extremely controversial
views just as is the ultra-conserv-
ative society bearing his name to-
day.

Birch was leader of a secret
fellowship group of "fundamental-
ist" students who sought to purge
Mercer University of five faculty
members. The students charged
the professors with teaching
heretical doctrines on the Baptist
campus.

The faculty members were

cleared at a hearing before mem-
bers of the board of trustees. Po-
lice escorted Birch and his fellow
fundamentalists from the campus
the night of March 30, 1939, for
their own safety.

Robert Welch, founder of the
John Birch Society in 1958, did
not know John Birch in 1939 or
at any time prior to his death at
the hands of Chinese Communist
guerrillas in 1945, 10 days after
V-J Day.

If Welch was aware of Birch,
inspired charges against the Mer-
cer faculty members and the sub-
sequent hearing, he did not men-

tion it in his book, "The Life of
John Birch," published in 1954.
He reported only that Birch re-
ceived his bachelor of arts degree
magna cum laude in 1939 and
went on to the Bible Baptist
Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., to
prepare himself to go to China as
a missionary in 1940.

Nonetheless, a similarity exists
between the charges by Welch
and such prominent persons as
former President Eisenhower and
Chief Justice Earl Warren are
Communists or their dupes and
accusers by Birch's student

group that "all denominational
institutions are reeking with
heresy."

Welch says he first heard of
Birch while reading a congres-
sional committee hearing report
dealing with his death. He says
Birch was the first uniformed
American casualty of World War
III; that he was killed by the
Communists "at the first oppor-
tunity after the war, because of
the powerful resistance he would
have been able to inspire against
them."

Birch's mother, Mrs. George B.
Birch of Macon, said in an inter-

The Atlanta Journal and

The Atlanta Constitution
April 23, 1961

Editor: JOEL HUFF

RE: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
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AT File: 100-5857

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

view as long ago as 1950 that she believed her son gave his life in an effort to warn Americans of the danger from Communists, and that his warning was deliberately kept from the public by government censorship.

Three former Army intelligence officers who served with Birch or investigated his death have agreed in recent statements that he was killed when he tried to bluff his way out of a difficult situation while on a mission in Communist-held territory. They differ as to whether Birch, a nus-

siary turned OSS captain, died a hero.

Birch was not generally regarded a hero by the Mercer University student body at the time of the heresy trial he inspired. One of the placards displayed on the campus at the time read, "Lynch Saint Birch."

According to Dr. Spright Dowell, Mercer president emeritus who was head of the institution at the time, the heresy attack was aimed primarily at Dr. John D. Freeman, 75-year-old head of the Christianity department. He was, in the words of the committee which investigated the charges, a man who "for 30 years . . . has

been a Baptist preacher and teacher, a man greatly beloved, a leader among the Baptists of the world and one who through the years has been regarded as a conservative in his theology."

Dr. Dowell noted in his book, "A history of Mercer University," published in 1958, that only three of the complaining students were in classes taught by Dr. Freeman. "Twenty of their classmates resented the attack and voluntarily stated . . . that Dr. Freeman's teaching was 'doctrinally sound, spiritually sane and genuinely Christian'."

Dr. Freeman resigned shortly

after the heresy trials and died in 1943.

Birch and his 12 associates, a fundamentalist minority among approximately 60 ministerial students at the school, sent letters to 1,000 Baptist ministers in Georgia leveling the charges against the faculty members. The students charged the professors with saying, among other things, "There were no such persons as Adam and Eve"; "You do not have to believe in Jesus Christ to be saved"; "The Bible contradicts itself"; "It was not necessary for Christ to die to free man from sin," and "the Bible was not divinely inspired."

Methodist Church Called 'the Reddist'

Atlanta — Relative to Atlanta Journal and Constitution's contribution to the John Birch Society, etc. The Liberal, Progressive and Pro Communist Press in America is doing a wonderful publicity and public relations job for the John Birch Society that would cost us millions of dollars otherwise. So Rallie Boy, Patterson, and others keep on pouring it on and we will arrive at the million number — million dollar goal much sooner than you think.

Relative to axinine editorial Saturday's Constitution, "Welch Can't Put Up," Methodist Church Bishops have known for years names of leading Reds in their midst and have done absolutely NOTHING about it. The Methodist Federation for social (Communist) action contains the names of these Red on its Rolls. Nothing has been done about this. I was formerly a Methodist and became nauseated to point of leaving it when it became apparent they would do nothing about it.

The Methodist Church is the Reddist of the Protestant Denominations and are turning out thousands of new Reds each year from its schools and theological "cemeteries." Next in is the American Friends with their Social Service Committee. There are Reds or fellow travelers in the others as well. In fact there is at least one in the local Baptists who's column appears in Constitution and who follows the Communist party line regularly in it.

The patriotic Americans are not fighting youth, schools, churches, labor or government or press. We are fighting the Communists in them and shall continue to do so.

THOMAS SWANSON

P. S. I am not a member but a prospective member John Birch Society.

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AT File: 100-5857

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b7C

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

Welch Is Not Like Sen. McCarthy

The Editors: I doubt that your comparing Robert Welch to the late Sen. McCarthy will brainwash many into that fallacy.

Witch-hunter McCarthy was a ruthless egotist, who could not have helped the cause of communism more if he had been on the party's payroll. His methods were so self-seeking and repugnant to American patriots that they mistakenly began shrinking from the thought of exposing Communists. His methods destroyed our alertness and our sense of duty in regard to fighting a very real evil that threatens America. The Communists love him.

Robert Welch is no publicity seeker. Apparently he has sacrificed much more materially than he has gained. He is not helping the cause of communism, nor do the Communists love him. . . .

This the left-wing press knows and abhors, because the John Birch Society is no threat to America but to communism inside America. So the left-wing press will intensify its propaganda to discredit Welch and the Society, and to use Welch as it used McCarthy to combat anti-communism.

RUDY SIMPSON.

Atlanta.

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

Congressmn Urge Birch Society Quiz

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A Republican senator and a Democratic congressman called Sunday for an investigation of the John Birch Society.

Sen. Kenneth B. Keating, R-N.Y., and Rep. John F. Shelley, D-Calif., said Congress should look into the anti-Communist organization, Keating pointed out that some members of the Birch Society had asked Congress for an inquiry.

The New York Republican said the Senate internal security subcommittee should conduct the investigation. If this committee thinks it lacks jurisdiction, a special inquiry should be made, Keating said.

The senator called for the investigation on his weekly television program from New York.

Shelley said in remarks prepared for delivery in the House Monday that the society posed a

problem of whether it would be best to investigate it or ignore it.

The San Francisco Democrat said "extremist forces" of both left and right often had gained strength after attracting "alarmed interest and discussion." But he said the society should be subjected to "relentless public exposure" because of the tactics it uses.

Shelley said the Birch Society uses the same methods as "the enemy it claims to be combating: front organizations, pressure campaigns, an apparatus of intimidation -- with the smear its hallmark and a crippling of the democratic process its outcome."

Keating also referred to the methods of the Birch Society.

It is completely contrary to our system for any organization to set itself up as an infallible political arbiter of what is correct and to smear all those who disagree with charges of being traitors or Communists," Keating said.

The senator said an investigation was further justified by what he called the society's attempts to influence legislation and talk by its leaders of forming a third party in 1964.

Keating said Congress should determine whether lobbying laws and the corrupt practices act should be applied to the society.

Keating said the society has a "potential income of over \$18 million a year" under its dues schedule and membership goal. "Yet it is alleged that the society makes no accounting of its funds to its membership," he said.

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AT File: 100-5857

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 25 1961	
FBI — ATLANTA	

b7C

Private Club/ Cancels 'Open' Birch Session

The Atlanta Athletic Club has canceled the scheduled use of its facilities for a meeting Friday night at which Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, is slated to speak, the club manager said Monday.

W. E. Harrison, the manager, said the facilities had been engaged in the name of an individual who is a member of the Athletic Club, but the engagement had been cancelled after the Birch meeting was described as "open."

"We cannot have our facilities used for 'open' meetings and retain our identity as a private club," Mr. Harrison said. "The John Birch Society meeting definitely will not be held here."

TERRY WHITMAN, Atlanta area coordinator for the Birch Society, could not be reached immediately for information on the change in plans.

He had said earlier Monday, however, that admission to the Welch address would be "by invitation only," though a \$1 fee would be charged. He was hoping for a turnout of 800.

Mr. Welch, a Belmont, Mass., businessman, founded and still heads the arch-conservative, anti-Communist society.

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b7C

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SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 20 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

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Birch Backers--and Why

By MARGARET SHANNON

One of the most active speakers in the Atlanta area on the Communist danger as he sees it is Dr. Lane Mitchell, head of the ceramics department at Georgia Tech and a commander in the Naval Reserve.

In 1959, Dr. Mitchell went to the National War College for the Defense Strategy Seminar, an enterprise which started with a "bright idea" by Frank Barnett, research director for the Richardson Foundation, according to R. Randolph Richardson of Atlanta, whose family fortune set up the foundation.

The seminar lasted two weeks, climaxing with a speech by Adm. Arleigh Burke, chief of naval operations.

"Since then," says Dr. Mitchell, "I have rededicated my life to fighting communism. It is the most important thing a man can do—more important, even, than providing food and clothing for his own family, for if we do not conquer this evil foe, we will have no family to feed and clothe."

DR. MITCHELL took the ad-

miral's speech as a personal charge to him to go out and fight the Red menace. He has made over 200 speeches in the past two years on the subject. He said his religion has been revitalized.

"I have come to view this as a fight for the individuality and spirituality of man," he says.

When one sees what he believes to be Communist influences in so many things, as Dr. Mitchell does, the urge to speak out is strong, he says.

"I have tried to stay away from complete denunciation of individuals," he says, "but I am less circumspect in denouncing groups."

He says, for instance, that "the press in Atlanta is liberal" and that "liberals are helping America surrender our sovereignty."

He is an admirer of the arch-conservative, anti-Communist John Birch Society, although he says he doesn't belong. He does not see how anyone could take umbrage with the views of Robert Welch, the society's founder.

DR. MITCHELL is likely to use any occasion possible, including his Tech classes, for an anti-Communist lecture. A marketing researcher reports that he went to a business club recently expecting to hear a Mitchell talk on marketing and heard instead a Mitchell talk on communism.

The Georgia Tech faculty member says most of his more than 200 speeches have been made to groups that wanted to hear about the Communist menace. "I have not had any captive audiences, except you might say my students

in class or my Naval Reserve unit," he says.

Some of the talks have been to "plain people" and some to "intellectuals," he says. "Frankly I find the plain people more responsive and more awake," he says. "They are real patriots."

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RE: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
IS-C
AT File: 100-5857

2cc Bur.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 20 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

AS AN ILLUSTRATION of his absorption in the subject, Dr. Mitchell related his experience in filling out his income tax:

"I was listing my contributions to various causes, all of them very worthy, and I got to thinking about the people running these charities.

"So I noted the boards of directors and there were so many liberals on theme that I thought to myself, 'I just hope my money is going for these causes and not being used by these liberals for other purposes.'

"You see how hard it is to fight this thing. It's fine to help the (he named a type of charity), and if you try to tell people that Communist influences have infiltrated the (charity), you get accused of being against the (beneficiaries of the charity)."

DR. MITCHELL FEELS his religion revitalized in his anti-Communist fight. Some of the anti-Communist activities in the Atlanta area are religion-centered, as the local chapter of the Church League of America and the Voice of Liberty. The heads of both these groups here support the John Birch Society, the first as a member and the latter as an admirer.

Mrs. Martha Andrews, of 692 Sunnybrook Dr., Decatur, execu-

tive secretary of the Voice of Liberty, which she originated, puts out a quarterly publication devoted to "constitutional government and fundamental Christianity."

The Voice of Liberty has an advisory board, serving at Mrs. Andrews' invitation. Members are M. Virgil Davis, chairman; Mrs. W. R. DeBra, W. M. Goodson, J. C. Hazelton, Mrs. R. Vinton Reid and G. W. Pendleton.

She says her publication reaches all 50 states and three Canadian provinces and is supported by contributions. Some of its statements in recent issues covered a wide range of topics.

ON THE presidential election: "Khrushchev's man won by less than two votes per precinct. Among bloc votes for the pro-socialist was labor; Jewish (about 9 to 1 according to one report); big-city Negro vote (exception Atlanta); and Catholic."

URBAN RENEWAL: "This knock-down-build-up program will cost taxpayers billions of dollars in a now almost-bankrupt economy, while an all-powerful, paternal, socialistic government assumes increasing control over personal lives, and news reports usually give only the promoters' side of the picture."

ON RACE relations: "Race relations' (alias for integration) is straight from the Communist platform, with the aim to create a one-world, classless society, with one race, the 'human' race; racial agitation divides the people, making them easier to conquer."

ON CHURCHES: "There are twice as many subversives in the field of religion than any other field; the nation is being sold out to Communists through the social gospel under the cloak of Christianity, and part of every nickel paid NCC (National Council of Churches) denominations goes to promote leftist causes."

ON THE federal government: "When the federal government says whom we must employ, to whom we must rent or sell, by whom we must live, and with whom our children must be educated — the rights of every American is in jeopardy; the South is not fighting the Negro, but communism, which is using the Negro to overthrow constitutional government."

Mrs. Andrews says her enterprise formerly was called the Voice of Freedom and some of her tracts still bear that name, but "I had to get rid of it because I found out there was a Communist-front outfit by that name."

She avoids using the label Communist. "A Communist is a dues-paying member, and it is virtually impossible for persons like myself to prove, and we can be sued if we call a person a Communist if he is not one," she said. "A freeter is one who serves the Communist cause without being a party member."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

Birch Ideas Bad As Those They Oppose

The Editors: The public statements of the spokesmen of the John Birch Society indicate that the aim of this group of self-styled "patriots" is the silencing of every American who disagrees with them, and their tactics for achieving this aim are those which are standard for any subversive group, including the infiltration of other groups for their own ends, the setting up of "front" organizations, and the slandering of their opponents.

It is easy to see that they do not consider freedom of speech to be necessary for democracy. In fact, they are quite willing to dispense with any part of the Bill of Rights which interferes with their witch hunt.

Since they have decided that the only way to preserve democracy from the dangers without, is to destroy it from within, they have become just as subversive as the groups which they oppose, and much more dangerous to America.

I personally am a conservative, and a Nixon Republican, who gets no pleasure out of calling names. But any organization which can brand Eisenhower and Dulles as communists has gone so far beyond the limits of common sense and common decency that it is no longer conservative, but Fascist, and it's time we called a spade a spade.

The job before this country now is to keep democracy on the road, and not to drive it off into the ditch on the right in order to avoid the swamp on the left.

ROBERT J. POWER.
Atlanta

Let Ax Cut Both Ways

The Editors: Recent wide publicity about the John Birch Society, a so-called conservative secret society, suddenly has set off a mad dash for the soap box.

There have been cries for a congressional investigation and all sorts of dark implications about the tactics embraced by this society in its avowed purpose to fight Communist infiltration in this country.

If the society poses any real danger to the kind of basic Americanism that all patriotic citizens need to protect, then certainly full exposure by investigation is decidedly in order.

But don't overlook the fact that many of those yelling loudest for a congressional investigation are the same ones who blow their tops over any suggestion that similar inquiries be made of suspected Red activity, or of left-wing radical groups that employ the same tactics.

Let's just be sure the ax cuts both ways.

I. C. Pharr.

Atlanta.

Articles Stir His Support for Birch

The Editors: Please tell us what you are trying to prove in Miss Shannon's articles.

Is it vile to be strongly pro-American and violently anti-Communist?

Today your reporter gives us this breathless piece of double talk, or something: "The John Birch Society, controversial anti-Communist organization, has won a welcome from inside this industrious watchdog of the public's patriotism in the Atlanta area." What a fine piece of gobbledegook.

Ask your Miss Shannon if she knows where I can get an application blank. I never was much of a "joiner" but I think this is one organization I'd like to belong to and work for.

TERRELL H. YON SR.
College Park.

From your reaction, it appears Miss Shannon's observation on winning a welcome is accurate and perceptive. The Editors.

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AT File: 100-5857 - 122

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 20 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

It's Policy Not to Tell

BIRCH WORD: SILENCE

By MARGARET SHANNON

Terry Whitman describes himself as a "volunteer coordinator" for the John Birch Society in the Atlanta area. He has been at it about a year and a half, he says.

Therefore if the society has any Atlanta chapters—and national headquarters says it has—they have come into being since Mr. Whitman entered the picture, because the society claimed no chapters in Georgia a year and four months ago.

* * *

ROBERT WELCH, the Belmont, Mass., businessman who founded the society, in a foreword to the second printing of his "Blue Book" under a Dec. 9, 1959, date, listed 16 states with working chapters. Georgia was not among them.

But Mr. Whitman, a clothing manufacturer's traveling representative, who resides at 311 Peachtree Hills Ave., N.E., declines to say how many chapters and how many members the John Birch Society has in the Atlanta area.

It's society policy not to tell.

As for members' activities in the Atlanta area, he was just about as uninformative.

* * *

HE DID SAY that Atlanta Birchers are not circulating any petitions for the impeachment of U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren.

"We have no concentration on anything," he said. "I couldn't give you anything specific. We just try to follow the bulletin."

Mr. Welch issues a monthly bulletin of information and instructions, with each issue including an agenda for the month.

* * *

THE FEBRUARY bulletin, for instance, said: "By far our major demand on your time and energy is still in support of the MOVEMENT TO IMPEACH EARL WARREN."

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SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 20 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

Mr. Whitman said he was unaware that the John Birch Society was distributing a booklet about the Foreign Policy Association issued by an Atlanta American Legion post.

The Birch Society February bulletin reported:

"We have been mailing out to each new chapter a copy of 'The Truth About the Foreign Policy Association,' issued by Post No. 140 of the American Legion, 3905 Powers Ferry Rd., NW, Atlanta 5, Ga. It contains about 115 pages, 8 1/2 x 11, closely packed with devastating material on the Foreign Policy Association, its activities and its leaders. The retail cost is \$1 per copy, \$10 for 14 copies. We hope presently to be able to go back and send a copy to all of our present chapters that do not have one."

ACCORDING TO an article in the March issue of the Georgia Legionnaire, the booklet emerged from a file prepared by the Americanism Committee of the Waldo M. Slaton Post No. 140.

The same article says that a Fulton County grand jury presentment critical of the "Great Decisions" program of the Foreign Policy Association was based on the committee's file.

The article in the Georgia Legionnaire carries the byline of Lois J. Nichols and identifies her as researcher for the Waldo M. Slaton post's Americanism Committee.

Mr. RALPH NICHOLS, an insurance man, is also a researcher, concentrating on anti-Communist matters, but he says he doesn't "engage in any public activities" in the anti-Communist field.

He said he has what he describes as "a pretty good file of source materials," but that the Atlanta Public Library and the Emory University library both have superior source materials. He spoke particularly of Emory's collection of government publications.

Mr. Nichols said that he does the research "out of curiosity and love of country. I hate to see these people take it away."

He said he gets requests for research from many states and does research for the American Legion "here and all over."

THE SLATON POST'S booklet is one of several publications on various subjects recommended by the February bulletin of the Birch Society. One of the projects for the month: "Read at least one book on our approved list this month, and every month."

Mr. Whitman emphasized the voluntary nature of membership in the society. "We do not solicit membership per se," he said.

He said he became interested in the society when he "ran across the material through a friend and realized something's got to be done."

Mr. Whitman said he could not tell yet what effect, if any, recent publicity about the John Birch Society will have on membership.

Mr. Welsh reported in the fourth printing of the "Blue Book" that the society's growth in numbers had been far slower than expected, but its growth in strength, "especially in proportion to our numbers, has been far above our most hopeful expectations."

He said the society had refused to accept "just one chapter since the society was founded, and this was because of the extreme racist views of some of its prospective members."

"How little we go along with views of some of its prospective chapters that we have two all-Negro chap-

ters, of which we are very proud, and several chapters in northern states with good citizens of both white and colored races who meet together," he added.

"We are bitterly opposed to forced integration, in schools or anywhere else, but on far sounder grounds than the 'racial superiority' arguments.

"It is because, according to the constitution, the federal government has absolutely nothing to do, legally, with public education; because every American, white, or

black, should have the right to select his own associates for every enterprise and occasion; and because all of the trouble over integration — which is doing incalculable damage to both the black and white races — is Communist inspired, encouraged and implemented for Communist purposes."

"THE ANTI-COMMUNIST endeavors of the Birch Society are only its most immediate aim, according to Mr. Welch. He says in the 'Blue Book' that its great goal is: 'Less government and more responsibility.'"

He climaxes a discussion of this goal by saying that "neither the form of government nor its qual-

ity is as important as its quantity."

"Let's dramatize this fact — or opinion — by bringing it closer home," he continues. "And your speaker would like to have it understood he does not condone dishonesty in the slightest degree. Yet I had rather have for America, and I am convinced America would be better off with, a government of three hundred thousand officials and agents, every single

one of them a thief, than a government of three million agents with every single one of them an honest, honorable public servant. For the first group would only steal from the American economic and political system; the second group would be bound in time to destroy it. The increasing quantity of government, in all nations, has constituted the greatest tragedy of the 20th century."

Correction: R. P. Richardson, chairman of Project Alert in Atlanta, was quoted in Atlanta Journal-Constitution as saying he has known Robert Welch for some years. Mr. Richardson says he does not know Mr. Welch and his statement was that he has known of him for some years.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

Journal Reader Likes 'Moderation'

The Editors: While not a member of the John Birch Society and all I know about it is what I read in the papers, I think The Journal and Margaret Shannon are to be commended for the enquiring and informative manner in which you have handled this subject.

With so much of the press and its members rather violently "liberal" these days, it is rather comforting to an ordinary citizen to find moderation in so strong a voice and influence as The Journal. May it over "Cover Dixie like the dew."

WADE MURRAIL

Blairsville.

Birchers and Reds Both Extremists

The Editors: In regard to the John Birch Society, I can't help but believe that any organization which has as its leader a man who has accused great patriots like Dwight D. Eisenhower and John Foster Dulles of being members of the Communist underground must be composed of a collection of screwballs.

Furthermore, just being anti-Communist doesn't in itself make a person or organization worthy of commendation. Hitler and his Nazis were anti-Communist, but we certainly wouldn't want people of their ilk in control of our government.

I am as much opposed to communism as anyone. However, I am equally opposed to those who would like to set up a Nazi-style dictatorship of the right in this country. Sensible people must be constantly on the alert against extremists of the left and of the right who would like to deprive them of their freedom.

F. EUGENE DEKLE

Atlanta

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APR 20 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	



Eugene Patterson

Yes, the Method Does Matter

Now Atlanta is to have a visit from a man named Robert Welch. Examine him closely. He seeks to advance political conservatism by submerging it in anti-Communist hogwash and calling it patriotism. His judgment is incredible, his tactics are causing concern to the Justice Department, and his movement, the John Birch Society, is engaged in a destructive vigilante action under the wrapper of anti-communism. FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover has warned Americans to shun inept vigilante action or risk lending impetus to communism.

What does Robert Welch, who served for seven years on the board of the National Assn. of Manufacturers, believe? "My firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt," Welch wrote on Page 287 of a manuscript called "The Politician."

How does he react to criticism? When his ridiculous statement about Eisenhower began backfiring, Welch issued a ringing denial that he had ever called Ike "a card-carrying Communist."

And of course he hadn't called Ike "a card-carrying Communist." He had called him a "dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy," and since he couldn't deny that, he denied something else which he hadn't called Ike in the first place.

This is a tactic typical of the Birch movement. It holds the public intelligence in such low respect that it presumes to flimflam it. Welch's written instructions to members on how to ask loaded questions explains: "The question technique, when skillfully used in this way, is mean and dirty. But the Communists are after all meaner and dirtier."

Welch's vision of a mean and dirty America is unacceptable to those who believe the strength of freedom lies in its fairness and cleanliness. But Welch has his own ideas there, too. "Democracy," he has written, "is merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery and a perennial fraud."

Presumably he was splitting the old hair and terming America a republic, not a democracy. But even the republican form of government, he wrote, while having many attractions under certain favorable conditions, "lends itself too readily to infiltration, distortion and disruption."

Seemingly discontent with the American system, he formed the Birch group "to be a monolithic body" under "completely authoritative control" with members "subject to smoothly functioning direction from the top."

And who is at the top? "The men who join the John Birch Society," Welch wrote, "are doing so primarily because they believe in me and what I am doing and are willing to accept my leadership."

This, then, is the kind of man who put out the order to Birchites last September to "take over the PTAs," who instructs his followers, many of them reputable businessmen, to get films on communism shown in schools, to get speaking engagements at churches and civic clubs, and to call newspapers or individuals who oppose them Communist dupes.

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APR 13 1961	
FBI - ATLANTA	

b7C

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SERIALIZED <u>✓</u>	FILED <u>✓</u>
NOV 17 1965	
FBI-ATLANTA	

☐ REPORT

NOVEMBER 12, 1965

General Information
On JBS Activities
Atlanta, Georgia

☐ advises that the ☐ program that was supposed to have been set up for ☐ to have a number of speaking engagements in Negro churches here has been cancelled. Apparently, there seems to be a connection between a number of beatings that have taken place in the Negro community and the ☐ program. In any event, the word is that the Negroes who were ostensibly working to arrange for ☐ to speak at the churches have gone underground and the program is cancelled.

☐ was talking to ☐ and ☐ who advised him that "Let Freedom Ring had been cancelled out in Atlanta because of a law suit brought by the ADL". ☐ stated he pressed them more on this. As you will recall, ☐ advised that ☐ had agreed to have the "Let Freedom Ring" outlet at his office. ☐ said that apparently, because of a law suit brought by ADL, the anonymity of the sponsor is no longer to be kept secret by the telephone company, and they are having second thoughts about operating the station here.

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☐ advises that much information has been received locally in the last two weeks - that the "Impeach Earl Warren" program will be the concentrated JBS program for the year of 1966.

☐ indicates he was advised that the Dupont Company of Delaware is buying the defunct Atlanta Times and is going to resume publication.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-18-84 BY *60290 BCL/1007/OK*

1. "The Life of John Birch", rec. from Newark 4/13/60.
(ent. 4/14/60 US)
Ref. to Committee on 4-22-60

2. "The Blue Book" of the John Birch Society, rec. from Newark 4/13/60.
(ent. 4/14/60 US)
Ref. to Committee on 4-22-60

3. "Terrible 1313", rec. from Newark 4/13/60.
(ent. 4/14/60 US)
Ref. to Committee on 4-22-60

4. "Great Decisions 1960", rec. from Newark 4/13/60.
(ent. 4/14/60 US)
Ref. to Committee on 4-22-60

5. "The Dan Smoot Report", rec. from Newark 4/13/60.
(ent. 4/14/60 US)
Ref. to Committee on 4-22-60

6. Pamphlet concerning Communism.
ent. 4-22-60 US

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7. Card mailed to S.A. [redacted] home. (Ent. 7-5-62 plus)

8. Two letters re. John Birch Society. (Ent. 7-5-62, plus)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-17-04 BY 60290 BCC/KC/ST

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100-5557-1A

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THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Belmont 78, Massachusetts

Tallahassee, Florida
June 4, 1962

b7C

Founder

ROBERT WELCH

The Council

N. E. ADAMSON, JR.
THOMAS J. ANDERSON
T. COLEMAN ANDREWS
SPRUILLE BRADEN
LAURENCE E. BUNKER
F. GANO CHANCE
STILLWELL J. CONNER
RALPH E. DAVIS
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ALFRED KOHLBERG†
CLARENCE MANION*
FRANK E. MASLAND, JR.
N. FLOYD MCGOWAN
W. B. MCMILLAN
REVILO P. OLIVER
COLA G. PARKER
M. T. PHELPS
LOUIS RUTHENBURG
J. NELSON SHEPHERD
JAMES SIMPSON, JR.†
ROBERT W. STODDARD*
CHARLES B. STONE, III
PAUL H. TALBERT

*Executive Committee

†Deceased

790289
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-17-94 BY *am/ta/2000/nc/pt*

It has recently come to our attention that an individual is now working in the Atlanta area for the ostensible purpose of setting up a political coalition of all "patriotic" organizations. While the general purpose of this organization is to stop the integration movement, the manner in which this is being conducted is highly inflammatory. While the individuals involved may be completely sincere and innocent of any direct intention of inciting civil strife, the approach used seems to be designed to fan the resentment toward integration into a hatred of the negro to the point from which open violence and mob action could result from the slightest provocation.

This fits too closely into the pattern of action mentioned by Mr. Welch on page 29 of the Blue Book which reads:

"It has long been their (the communists) plan, gradually carried out over a long period with meticulous cunning, to stir up such bitterness between whites and blacks in the South that small flames of civil disorder would inevitably result. They could then fan and coalesce these little flames into one great conflagration of civil war, in time, if the need arose."

We are sure that our fine members would want no part in the promotion of such a program from either side, consequently we are sending you this letter to be read to your chapter (if you are a Chapter Leader) so that it will be less likely that any member will be deceived into supporting the program.

This action on our part is in accordance with our long standing policy to be sure that The John Birch Society membership and Chapter structure remains a force for creating less government, more individual responsibility, and a better world. To allow it to become a vehicle to promote hate for any race or religion would be contrary to our principles and purposes.

If there is any member who does not feel that he can, with clear conscience, go along with this policy, we do hereby respectfully request that he make this known to the home office in the form of his resignation.

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Belmont 78, Massachusetts

Founder

ROBERT WILSON

Page 2.

The Council

N. L. AGAMON, JR.
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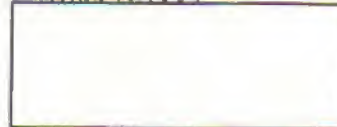
To make the Society's position explicitly clear, I call your attention to a footnote in the Blue Book:

"We have refused to accept just one chapter since the Society was founded, and this was because of the extreme racist views of some of its prospective members. How little we go along with such views is shown by the fact that we have two all-Negro Chapters, of which we are very proud, and several chapters in northern states with good citizens of both white and colored races who meet together. WE ARE BITTERLY OPPOSED TO FORCED INTEGRATION, IN SCHOOLS OR ANYWHERE ELSE, BUT ON FAR SOUNDER GROUNDS THAN THE "RACIAL SUPERIORITY" ARGUMENTS. IT IS BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO, LEGALLY, WITH PUBLIC EDUCATION: BECAUSE EVERY AMERICAN, WHITE OR BLACK, SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO SELECT HIS OWN ASSOCIATES FOR EVERY ENTERPRISE AND OCCASION; AND BECAUSE ALL OF THE TROUBLE OVER INTEGRATION -- WHICH IS DOING INESTIMABLE DAMAGE TO BOTH THE WHITE AND BLACK RACES -- IS COMMUNIST INSPIRED, ENCOURAGED, AND IMPLEMENTED FOR COMMUNIST PURPOSES."

Please accept our heart-felt thanks for all of your work in helping The John Birch Society become an ever stronger force to preserve for our children and theirs as much of this humane civilization as we possibly can.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



JHP, jr./vw

b7C

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Belmont 78, Massachusetts

May 22, 1962

Founder

ROBERT B.

The Council

N. E. ADAMS, JR.
THOMAS J. ANDERSON
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JAMES SIMMONS, JR.*
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CHARLES B. STONE, III
PAUL H. TALBERT

*Executive Committee

†Deceased

[Redacted]
Tallahassee, Florida

b7C

Dear [Redacted]

This letter is to state as simply as we know how that we approve of the action you are taking with regard to a problem which has developed in the Atlanta area.

As you know, we have a fantastic job ahead in stopping the Communists. And in accomplishing this task, we must rely on the "level-headed" reasoning and actions of Americanists who will devote as much time as they possibly can to this end. In order to attain our long-range goals, we must stop the Communists.

We do not intend to let The John Birch Society become a vehicle for anything else but a force for creating less government, more responsibility and a better world. Those who would try to change this course that we have set have no place in the Society.

With good wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

[Redacted]
b7C

TNH:rc